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# Public Libraries

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The public library offers free and equal access to services and resources to assist the people of Montgomery County in finding ideas and information to sustain and enrich their lives.

The Department of Public Libraries provides library services throughout the County in 20 full service libraries, which range in size from the Rockville Library [102,670 gross square feet (gsf) on three stories with 64,285 gsf dedicated to the library itself] to the leased storefront at Poolesville (6,250 gsf). In addition, the Library Department provides service in an historic landmark building at the Noyes Library for Young Children. The Department also offers services targeted to special communities through the Disability Resource Center in the Rockville Library, the Corrections Library in the Montgomery County Correction Facility in Clarksburg and the Mobile Services Liaison Van, operating out of the Davis Library (beginning in the first quarter of 2008).

The larger libraries—Bethesda, Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Wheaton—are open 59 hours per week. Fifteen libraries – Aspen Hill, Chevy Chase, Damascus, Davis, Fairland, Germantown, Kensington Park, Little Falls, Long Branch, Olney, Potomac, Quince Orchard, Silver Spring, Twinbrook, and White Oak are open 54 to 56 hours per week, with schedules tailored to meet local community needs. The Poolesville Library is open 46 hours per week. Eight libraries (Bethesda, Fairland, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Olney, Rockville, Silver Spring, and Wheaton) are open Sunday afternoons from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. during the school year.

Collections range from more than 250,000 volumes at the largest library to 53,000 at the smallest library. Collection size for each library is determined by user demand and the physical size of the building.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Renovate the Olney Library.
- Design renovation of the Davis, Potomac, and Wheaton libraries.
- Complete land acquisition and start design of a new library in downtown Silver Spring.
- Finish planning and construct a new library in Clarksburg.
- Review options for the renovation of the Gaithersburg Library.

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Rita Gale at 240.777.0022 of the Department of Public Libraries or Charles Goldsmith of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2779 for more information regarding this department's capital budget.

## CAPITAL PROGRAM REVIEW

Seven ongoing projects totaling \$59.4 million comprise the six-year capital improvements program for Public Libraries. This represents a decrease of \$11.9 million, or 16.7 percent, from the amended FY07-12 CIP. The change is due mainly to deferring construction of some facilities until further planning is completed. The Executive's proposal will continue progress toward the renovation or construction of all facilities included in the previous program.

The Public Libraries FY09-14 Capital Improvements Program is funded primarily by general obligation bonds and State aid. Current revenue is used for the acquisition of library materials at new and expanded libraries.

The schedule of library construction and renovation is derived from the *MCPL Strategic Facilities Plan – 2004 to 2009* (March 2004).

# Montgomery County, Maryland Public Libraries



## BRANCHES

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|-----------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Aspen Hill         | 7. Fairland         | 13. Noyes Library for<br>Young Children | 18. Rockville              |
| 2. Bethesda           | 8. Gaithersburg     | 14. Olney                               | 19. Silver Spring          |
| 3. Chevy Chase        | 9. Germantown       | 15. Poolesville                         | 20. Twinbrook              |
| 4. Corrections Center | 10. Kensington Park | 16. Potomac                             | 21. Wheaton                |
| 5. Damascus           | 11. Little Falls    | 17. Quince Orchard                      | 22. White Oak              |
| 6. Davis              | 12. Long Branch     |   | * Clarksburg<br>(proposed) |